

VILLAGE OF DECATUR DDA MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday
December 14,
2022



VILLAGE OF DECATUR
REGULAR DDA MEETING
Wednesday, December 14, 2022 – 1:00PM
Village Hall – 114 N. Phelps Street, Decatur, MI 49045

1:00 PM DDA Meeting (Action to be taken by DDA on the following agenda items)

Note: Please be courteous and turn cell phones off during the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL (Excused Absences if Any)

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

5A.1 - Approval of the Regular Meeting Agenda for December 14, 2022

5A.2 – Approval of the Regular DDA Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2022

6. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE DDA – PRESENTATIONS & GUEST

6A.1 – Presentation from McKenna

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7A.1 - Update regarding Christmas in the Village- Parade and Light up the DDA Park

7A.2 – Culpepper Merriweather Circus Information

8. NEW BUSINESS

8A.1 – Discussion regarding proposed 2023 Calendar of Events

8A.2 – Discussion regarding providing flowers/greenery for Summer and Fall Decor

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS- SECOND OPPORTUNITY

10. DDA MEMBER COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

In addition to addressing the DDA during public hearings and under “Public Comment,” members of the audience may address the DDA, please limit your comments to three minutes or less per item. Please step up to the Podium and state your name and address.

The proposed process for items listed under agenda items above shall be as follows:

1. Announcement of the agenda item by the Chairperson.
 2. Verbal report provided by staff.
 3. The Chairperson asks DDA members if they have any questions for staff to clarify the staff report.
 4. Motion is made by a DDA member and seconded by another DDA member.
 5. The Chair then calls on DDA members to discuss the motion if DDA members wish to discuss.
 6. The Chair calls for a vote on the item after discussion has occurred.
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Village of Decatur
Downtown Development Authority

Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 1:00 P.M
Village Hall, 114 N. Phelps Street
Decatur, MI 49045

I. Call to Order

James Creagan called the meeting to order at 1:06 P.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

James Creagan (First State Bank), Jay Newell (Newell Insurance), Lee Moser (Moser Financial Group) Excused, David Moorman (Moorman Printing) excused, Roger Kemp (Decatur Automotive Supply), Elissa Zimmer (Webster Memorial Library), Mary Miller (Mousse Lodge) excused, Jami Swihart (Honor Credit Union) excused, Matt Cooper (Cooper Law) excused, Christopher Tapper (Village Manager), Rebecca Harvey (Village Planner, McKenna), Danielle Bouchard (McKenna), Megan Duncan (Clerk/Treasurer), Shantel Pentland (Administrative Assistant).

IV. Public Comments

None

V. Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes

- a. Creagan offered a motion to approve the consent agenda for November 9, 2022, supported by Newell, including meeting minutes from August 10, 2022, carried unanimously 4-0.
- b. Creagan offered a motion to approve the minutes from September 14, 2022, supported by Newell, carried unanimously 4-0.

VI. Presentation and Guest – McKenna & Associates – DDA Development Plan

- a. Representatives from McKenna & Associates were in attendance to initiate the kick off meeting; establishing working relationships, defining basic desires, identify preferred method of communication, review current DDA Development Plan and TIF plan, goals, and project status, assess available maps and data, general discussion regarding a survey for the DDA district, and to define specific project objectives to guide the study and plan development.

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. A general discussion ensued regarding holiday events being organized by staff: Storefront/Window Decorating Contest, Holiday Parade, and Light Up the DDA Park.

VIII. DDA Member Comments

- a. None

IX. Adjournment

Tapper made a motion with support from Newell to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 P.M.

Minutes submitted by: Shantel Pentland, Administrative Assistant



Agenda

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 – 1:00pm

1. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT RECAP

1. Public Outreach Program

- a) Survey results to-date
- b) Stakeholder Roundtables (after the holidays)
 - Village Residents
 - Downtown Business Owners
 - Taxing Jurisdictions

2. DDA STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

1. Draft Development Plan

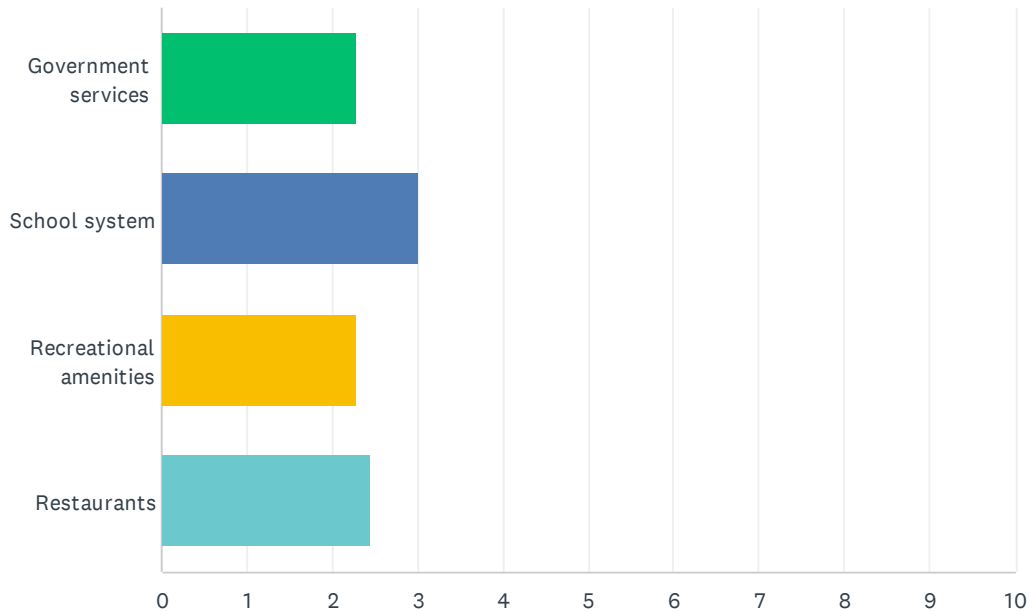
- a) What specific projects or issues would you like the plan to address?
 - Marketing and branding
 - Sidewalks, bike paths, and bike infrastructure
 - Streetscape
 - Placemaking (e.g., lamp posts, banners, seasonal decorations, planters, etc.)
 - Public spaces (e.g., pocket parks, parklands, plazas, gathering space, etc.)
 - Property acquisitions
 - Façade improvements or mini grant programs
 - Business attraction and retention

3. NEXT STEPS

- a) Determine if a DACC will be needed (100 people or more living in Development Area)
- b) More public engagement? (32 total responses)
- c) Stakeholder roundtables
- d) Drafting the Development Plan and TIF Plan

Q1 Which of the following aspects of the Village of Decatur most contributes to your quality of life? Please place in order of priority, with 1 indicating the highest priority and 4 indicating the lowest priority.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 2



	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
Government services	17.24% 5	27.59% 8	20.69% 6	34.48% 10	29	2.28
School system	55.17% 16	13.79% 4	6.90% 2	24.14% 7	29	3.00
Recreational amenities	3.45% 1	41.38% 12	34.48% 10	20.69% 6	29	2.28
Restaurants	25.00% 7	17.86% 5	35.71% 10	21.43% 6	28	2.46

Q2 What do you LIKE about the services offered by the Village of Decatur?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	We have a brewery! Also coverage for all the basic needs.	12/1/2022 7:50 PM
2	Leaf and trash pickup; parks are well maintained	12/1/2022 7:43 AM
3	Leaf pick up	11/30/2022 10:01 PM
4	If you have an issue they try to resolve it quickly	11/30/2022 8:23 PM
5	Leaf pickup, Garbage and recycling	11/30/2022 12:03 PM
6	The playground is great for my 3 kids	11/30/2022 9:52 AM
7	They are working to bring back some of the small town things such as Christmas parade, contest, golf carts in town and out of town.	11/30/2022 8:20 AM
8	I do not know what services are offered.	11/29/2022 9:00 PM
9	Not sure what services are offered	11/29/2022 8:56 PM
10	Fireworks, park maintenance, decorations, plowing streets	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
11	Fireworks, park maintenance, decorations, plowing streets	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
12	We are happy with all the village services.	11/29/2022 7:27 PM
13	Yard debris clean up	11/29/2022 7:25 PM
14	They are easy to get to.	11/29/2022 7:14 PM
15	The yard waste pickup. Plowing of roads and sidewalks.	11/29/2022 6:54 PM
16	Everyday lawn clipping cleanup in fall	11/29/2022 6:31 PM
17	Na	11/29/2022 6:25 PM
18	I am not a resident of the village but it is the nearest municipality. I appreciate the events and peacemaking efforts from the village.	11/29/2022 6:22 PM
19	Keeping it tidy	11/29/2022 6:16 PM
20	The recreational parks.	11/29/2022 6:12 PM
21	They're required for existing. The village does do a great job of leaf/yard waste pickup and plowing. When I think of services the village offers I feel that is like water, sewer and trash pickup (which is contracted)	11/29/2022 6:04 PM
22	Good walking and recreational areas for a variety of seasons. Things are kept in good working order.	11/29/2022 5:36 PM
23	Seems to always be there when needed	11/29/2022 5:34 PM
24	N/A	11/29/2022 5:17 PM
25	The village is very helpful to everyone	11/29/2022 4:58 PM
26	Not available	11/29/2022 9:22 AM
27	The parks	11/24/2022 3:51 PM

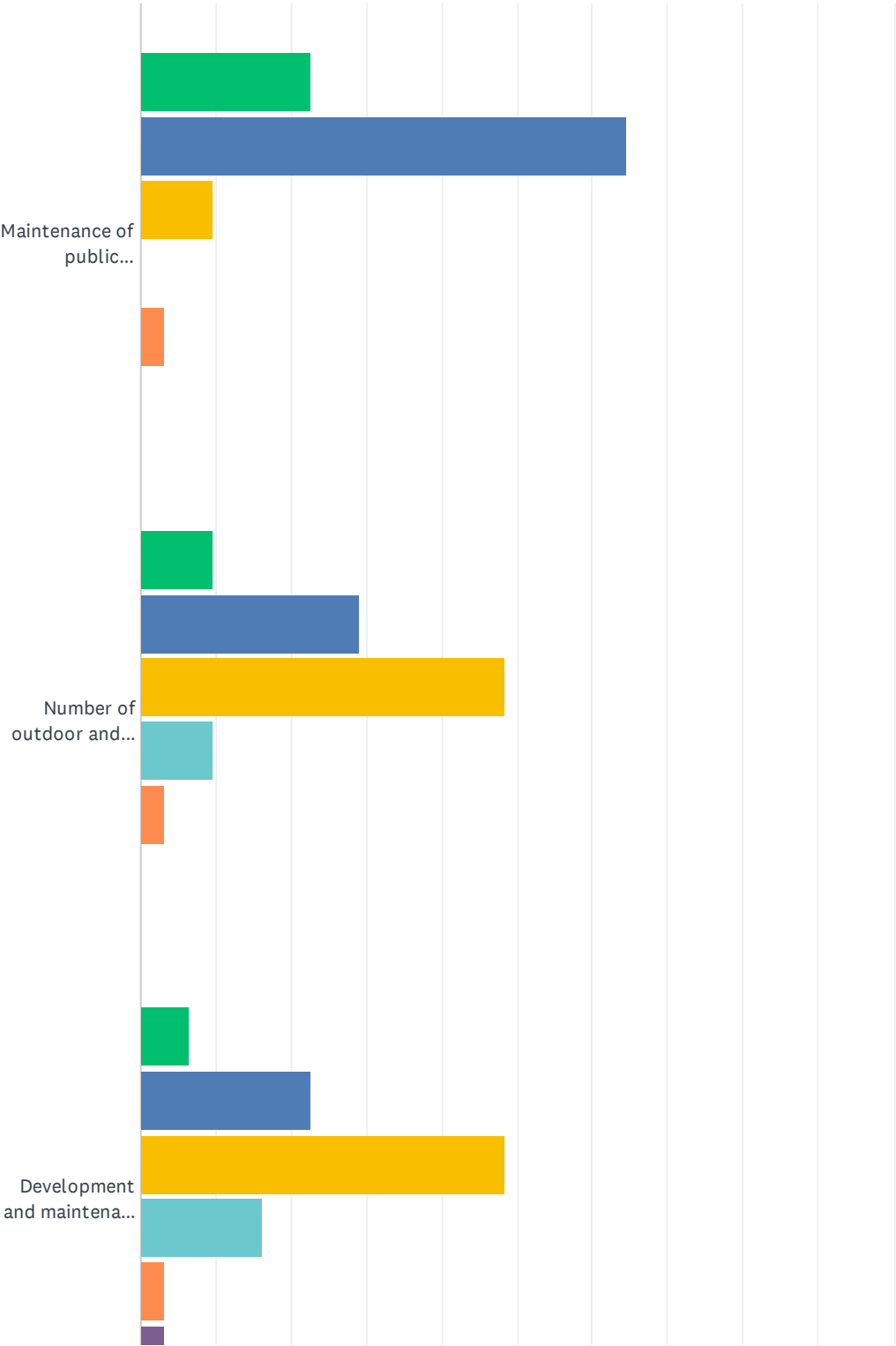
Q3 What do you NOT LIKE about the services offered by the Village of Decatur?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 6

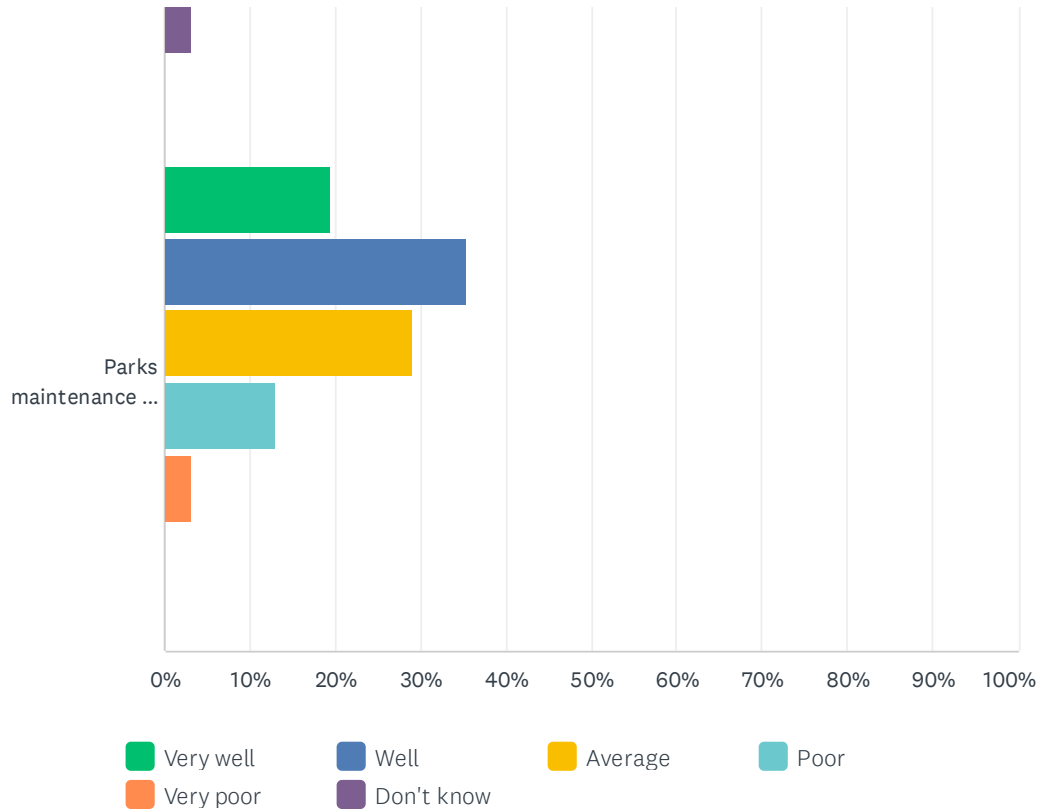
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I wish there was a chain coffee shop they was consistently open.	12/1/2022 7:50 PM
2	Not sure	12/1/2022 7:43 AM
3	Water service	11/30/2022 10:01 PM
4	Snow removal need some work heading to the schools and around the schools	11/30/2022 8:23 PM
5	Not sure	11/30/2022 12:03 PM
6	Definitely needs to have a fast food restaurant added	11/30/2022 9:52 AM
7	That they don't ask for input as often as they should. Like the placement of the stop signs someone complains and now we add them in stupid spots. That they are wanting to vote no on the golf carts when people want them things like that. Offer a virtual meeting option people are busy	11/30/2022 8:20 AM
8	I do not know what services are offered.	11/29/2022 9:00 PM
9	Same answer as above	11/29/2022 8:56 PM
10	Lack of community development. Lack of attention to Red Wolfe park. Ie volleyball courts beach not being raked or taken care of properly.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
11	Lack of community development. Lack of attention to Red Wolfe park. Ie volleyball courts beach not being raked or taken care of properly.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
12	We are not unhappy at all with the village services.	11/29/2022 7:27 PM
13	N/A	11/29/2022 7:25 PM
14	The hours can be challenging.	11/29/2022 7:14 PM
15	Na	11/29/2022 6:54 PM
16	The lack of streamed line internet options for bill payment (without fees)!	11/29/2022 6:31 PM
17	Na	11/29/2022 6:25 PM
18	The village has a large number of sidewalkless streets that hinder the walkability of the community as a whole. There is a lack of ways to stay up to date with the village outside of Facebook. A weekly column in the paper from the village manager/staff could go a long way....	11/29/2022 6:22 PM
19	N/a	11/29/2022 6:12 PM
20	We don't have municipal broadband or more than one option for internet.	11/29/2022 6:04 PM
21	The water is pretty gross. Everything in my house is stained and the filters are overloaded. This is not new info for you. Nothing else comes to mind. I would encourage you to assess accessibility for everyone related to special needs	11/29/2022 5:36 PM
22	Nothing	11/29/2022 5:34 PM
23	N/A	11/29/2022 5:17 PM
24	Nothing, Decatur is awesome!	11/29/2022 4:58 PM
25	Not available	11/29/2022 9:22 AM
26	I would like to see a splash pad	11/24/2022 3:51 PM

Q4 From your own experience, please indicate how well you think the Village of Decatur has provided each of the services below. Choose from one of the following choices: Very well, Well, Average, Poor, Very poor or Don't know.

Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



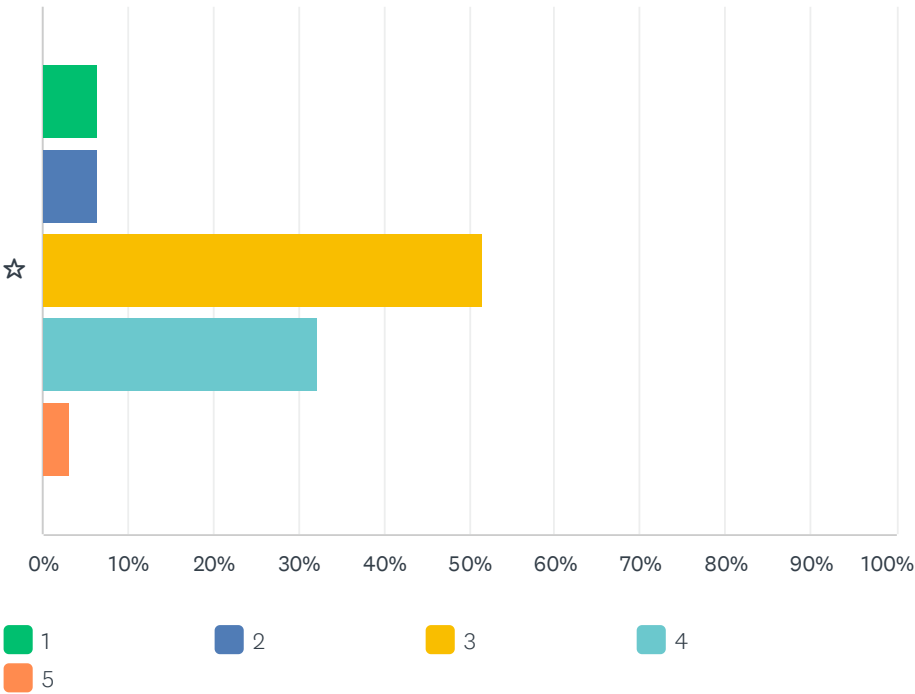
Village of Decatur - 2023 DDA Plan / Parks & Recreation Survey



	VERY WELL	WELL	AVERAGE	POOR	VERY POOR	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Maintenance of public landscaping and street trees	22.58% 7	64.52% 20	9.68% 3	0.00% 0	3.23% 1	0.00% 0	31	1.97
Number of outdoor and open space areas	9.68% 3	29.03% 9	48.39% 15	9.68% 3	3.23% 1	0.00% 0	31	2.68
Development and maintenance of sidewalk/bike lane/trail system	6.45% 2	22.58% 7	48.39% 15	16.13% 5	3.23% 1	3.23% 1	31	2.97
Parks maintenance and upkeep	19.35% 6	35.48% 11	29.03% 9	12.90% 4	3.23% 1	0.00% 0	31	2.45

Q5 Please rate the condition of sidewalks in the Village, with 1 star indicating "very poor condition" and 5 stars indicating "perfect condition."

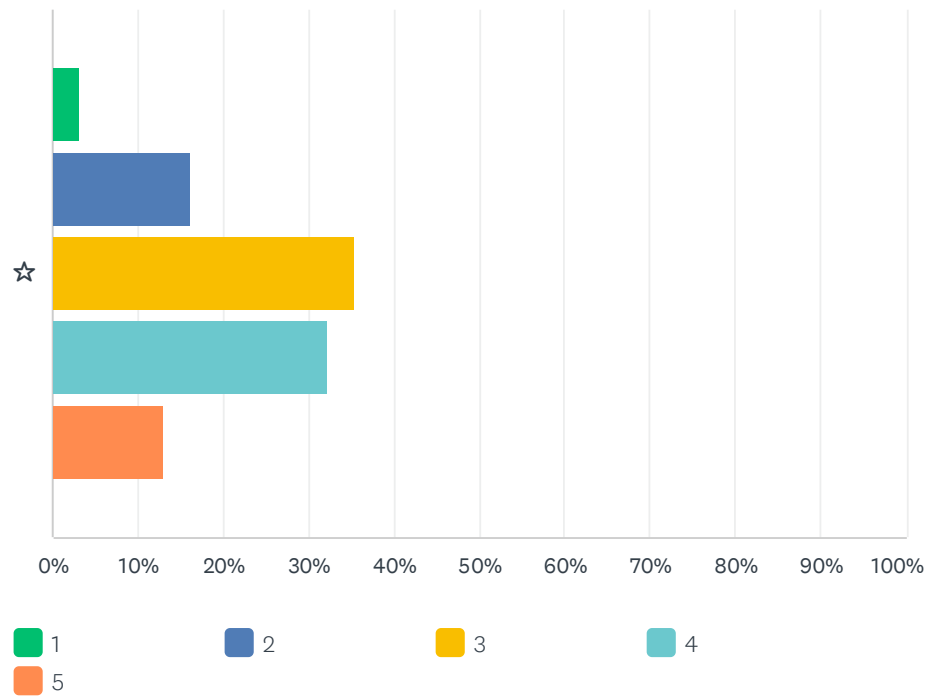
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	6.45% 2	6.45% 2	51.61% 16	32.26% 10	3.23% 1	31	3.19

Q6 Please rate level of walkability in the Village of Decatur, with 1 star indicating "very poor walkability" and 5 stars indicating "very good walkability."

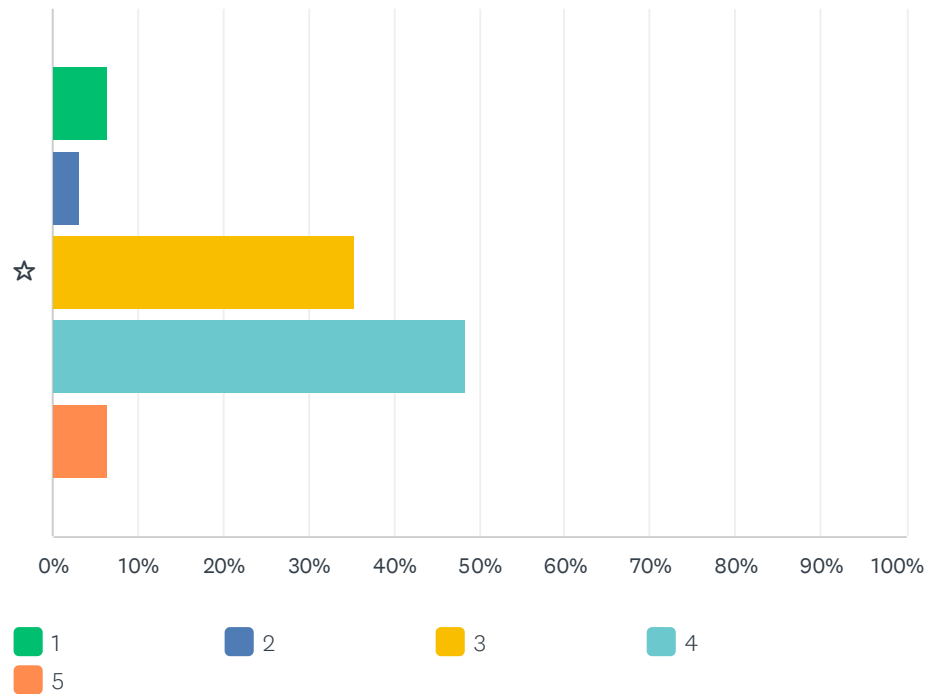
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	3.23% 1	16.13% 5	35.48% 11	32.26% 10	12.90% 4	31	3.35

Q7 Please rate road conditions in the Village of Decatur, with 1 star indicating "very poor condition" and 5 stars indicating "perfect condition."

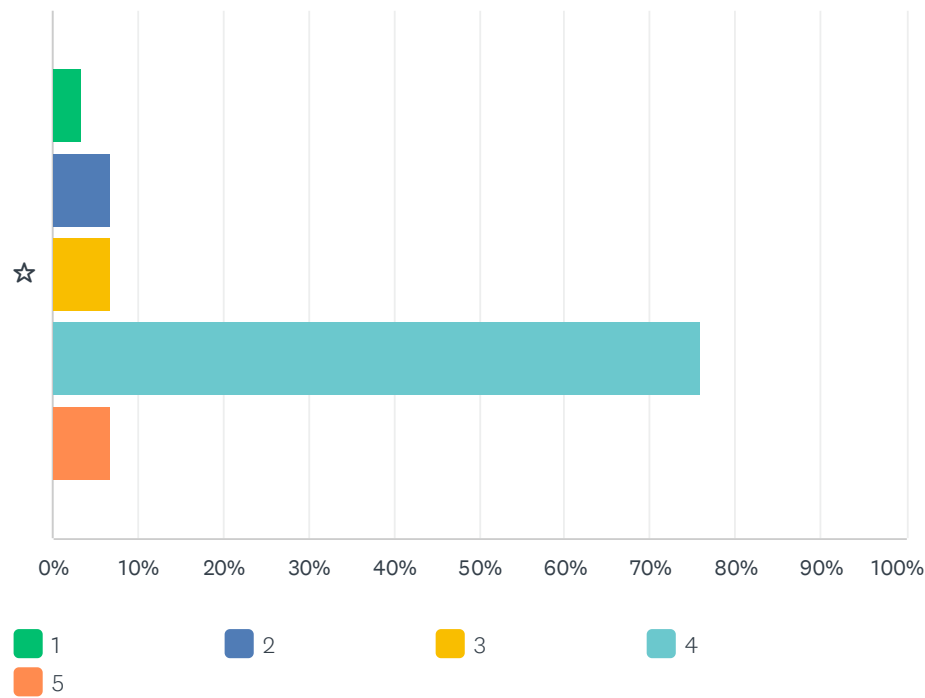
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	6.45% 2	3.23% 1	35.48% 11	48.39% 15	6.45% 2	31	3.45

Q8 Please rate snow removal services in the Village of Decatur, with 1 star indicating "very poor service" and 5 stars indicating "very good service."

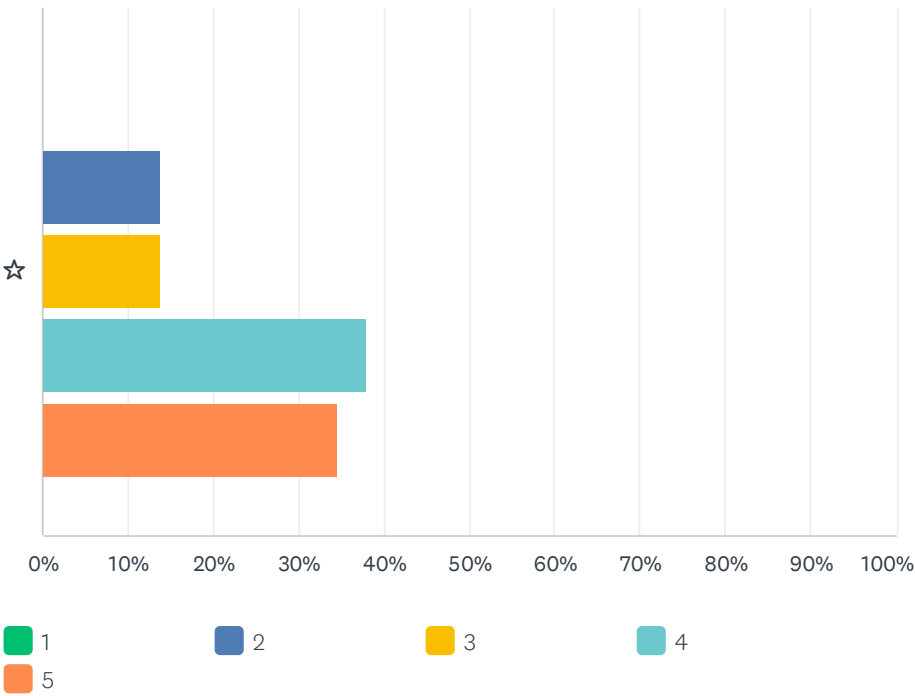
Answered: 29 Skipped: 3



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	3.45% 1	6.90% 2	6.90% 2	75.86% 22	6.90% 2	29	3.76

Q9 Please rate brush / yard waste removal services in the Village of Decatur, with 1 star indicating "very poor service" and 5 stars indicating "very good service."

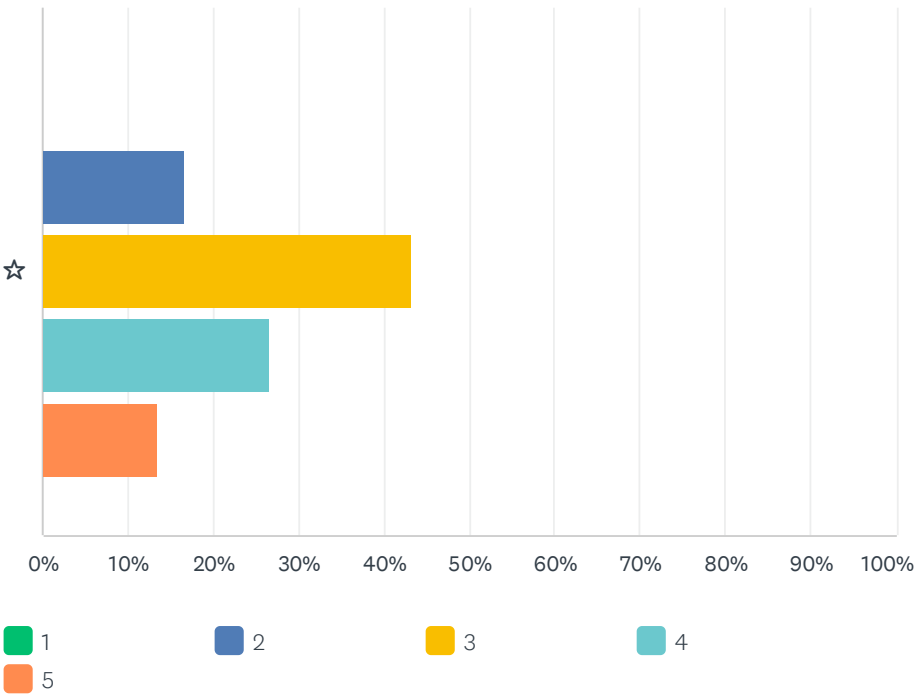
Answered: 29 Skipped: 3



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	0.00% 0	13.79% 4	13.79% 4	37.93% 11	34.48% 10	29	3.93

Q10 Please rate level of Village communication with residents through Facebook / Village website / Nixle, with 1 star indicating "very poor communication" a 5 stars indicating "very good communication."

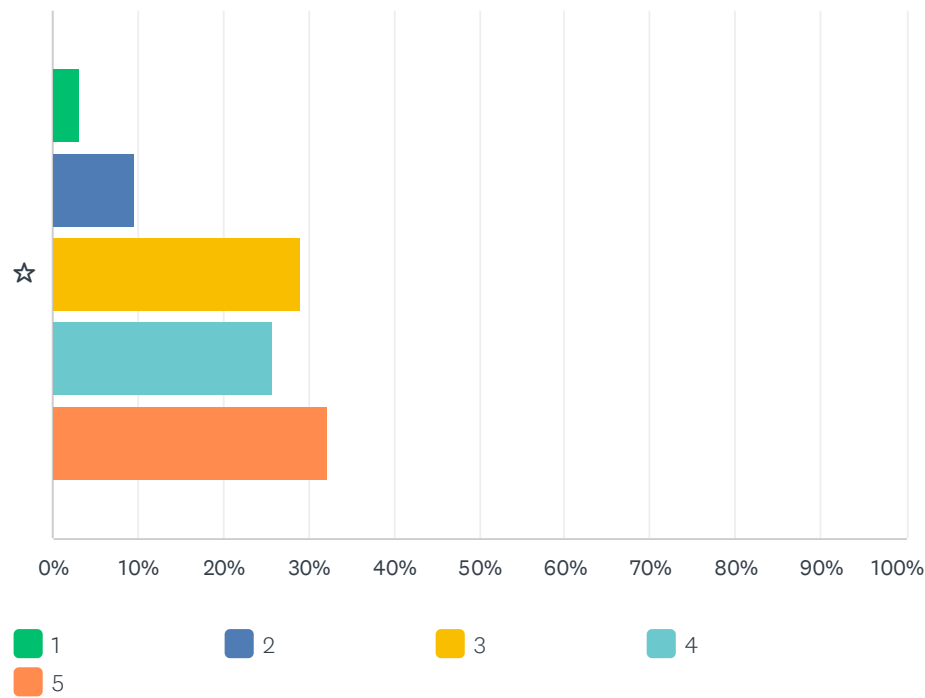
Answered: 30 Skipped: 2



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	0.00% 0	16.67% 5	43.33% 13	26.67% 8	13.33% 4	30	3.37

Q11 please rate the level of personal safety throughout the community, with 1 star indicating "very unsafe" and 5 stars indicating "very safe."

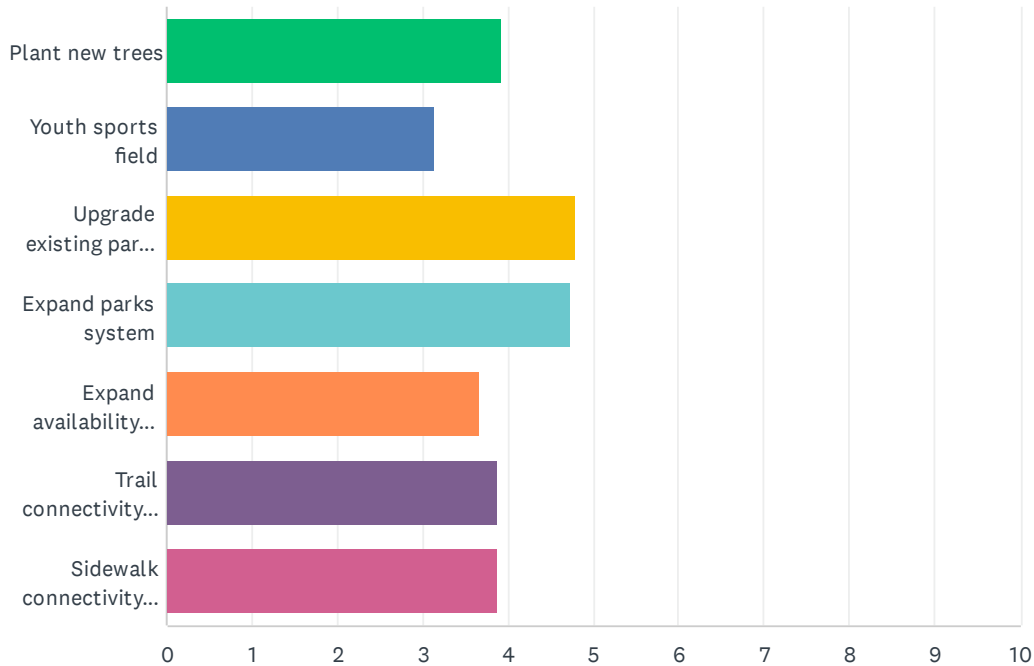
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	3.23% 1	9.68% 3	29.03% 9	25.81% 8	32.26% 10	31	3.74

Q12 Please put the following items in order of priority, with 1 indicating the highest priority and 7 indicating the lowest priority.

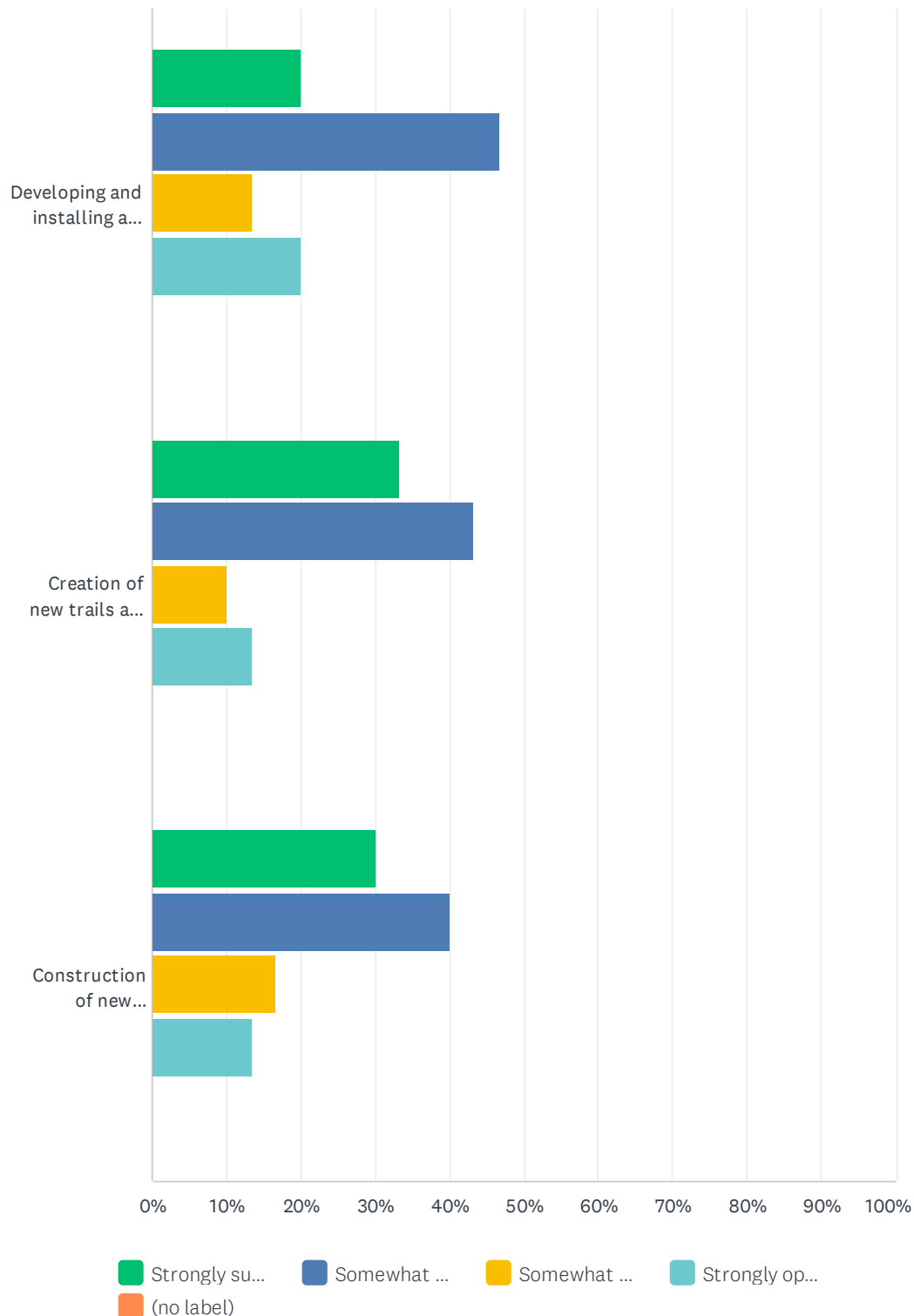
Answered: 30 Skipped: 2



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Plant new trees	16.67% 5	20.00% 6	10.00% 3	10.00% 3	6.67% 2	10.00% 3	26.67% 8	30	3.93
Youth sports field	13.33% 4	10.00% 3	6.67% 2	0.00% 0	16.67% 5	23.33% 7	30.00% 9	30	3.13
Upgrade existing parks amenities	10.00% 3	26.67% 8	20.00% 6	26.67% 8	13.33% 4	0.00% 0	3.33% 1	30	4.80
Expand parks system	20.00% 6	20.00% 6	20.00% 6	13.33% 4	10.00% 3	13.33% 4	3.33% 1	30	4.73
Expand availability of public waterfront/beach areas	10.00% 3	10.00% 3	10.00% 3	20.00% 6	20.00% 6	16.67% 5	13.33% 4	30	3.67
Trail connectivity throughout the community	10.00% 3	6.67% 2	20.00% 6	16.67% 5	23.33% 7	16.67% 5	6.67% 2	30	3.87
Sidewalk connectivity throughout the community	20.00% 6	6.67% 2	13.33% 4	13.33% 4	10.00% 3	20.00% 6	16.67% 5	30	3.87

Q13 Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax increase for each of the following to fund new facilities or services.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 2

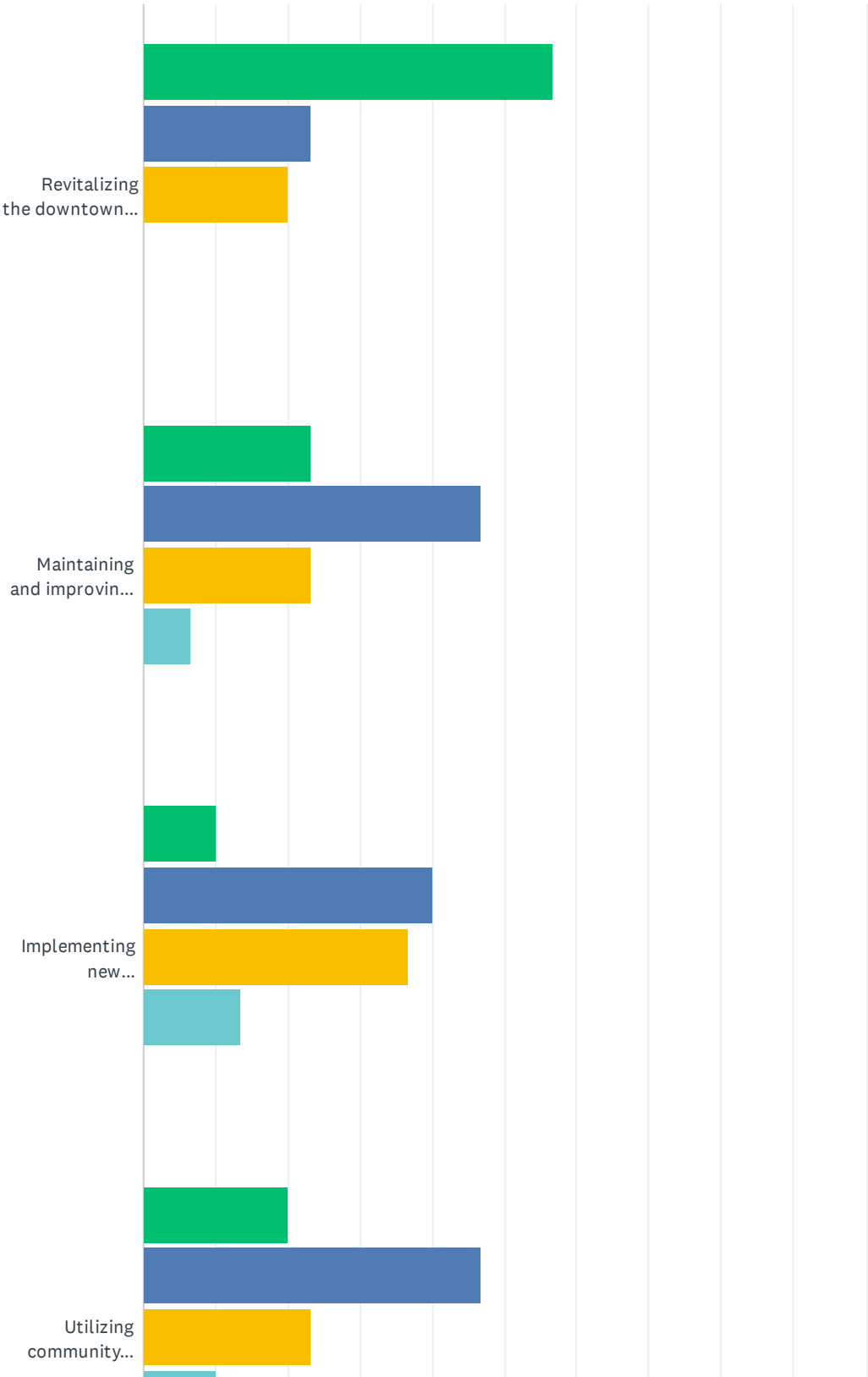


Village of Decatur - 2023 DDA Plan / Parks & Recreation Survey

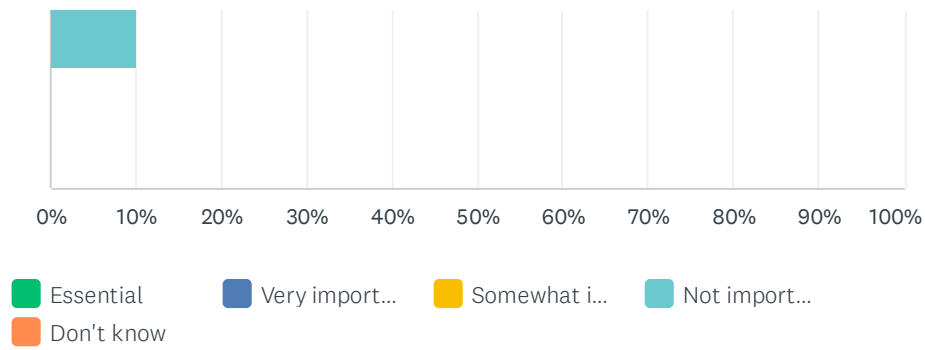
	STRONGLY SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	(NO LABEL)	TOTAL
Developing and installing a splash pad at Red Woolfe Park	20.00% 6	46.67% 14	13.33% 4	20.00% 6	0.00% 0	30
Creation of new trails and bike paths	33.33% 10	43.33% 13	10.00% 3	13.33% 4	0.00% 0	30
Construction of new sidewalks	30.00% 9	40.00% 12	16.67% 5	13.33% 4	0.00% 0	30

Q14 Please indicate how important, if at all, the following projects will be for the Village of Decatur to address over the next 5 years.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 2



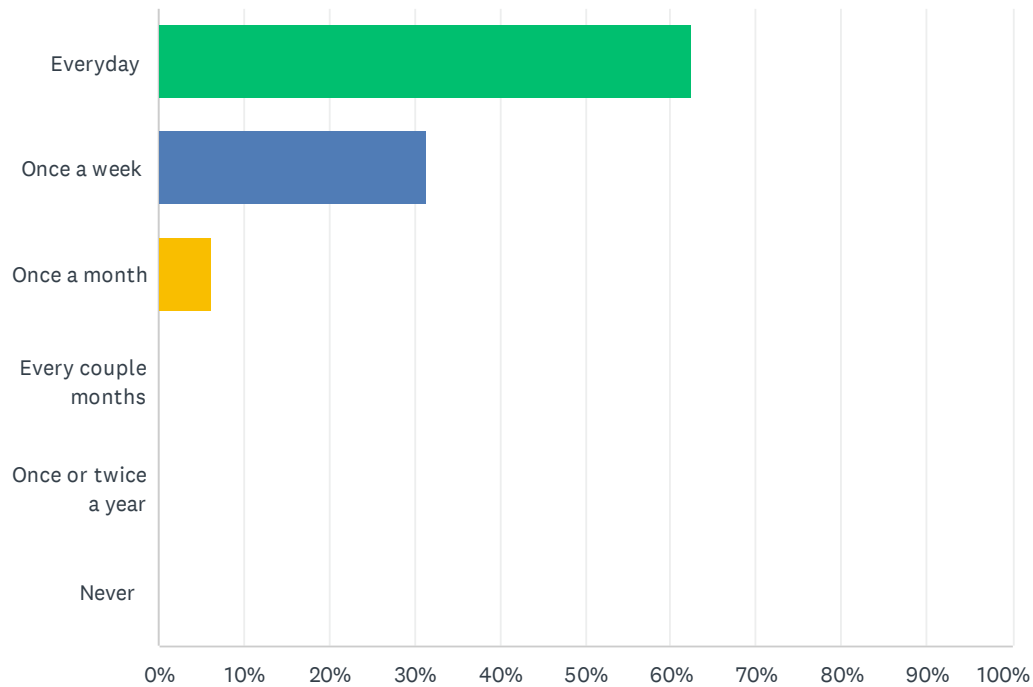
Village of Decatur - 2023 DDA Plan / Parks & Recreation Survey



	ESSENTIAL	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Revitalizing the downtown district	56.67% 17	23.33% 7	20.00% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	30	1.63
Maintaining and improving streets	23.33% 7	46.67% 14	23.33% 7	6.67% 2	0.00% 0	30	2.13
Implementing new construction of sidewalks improving current walkability	10.00% 3	40.00% 12	36.67% 11	13.33% 4	0.00% 0	30	2.53
Utilizing community gathering spaces (markets, live music, vendors)	20.00% 6	46.67% 14	23.33% 7	10.00% 3	0.00% 0	30	2.23

Q15 How frequently do you visit Downtown Decatur? Check all that apply.

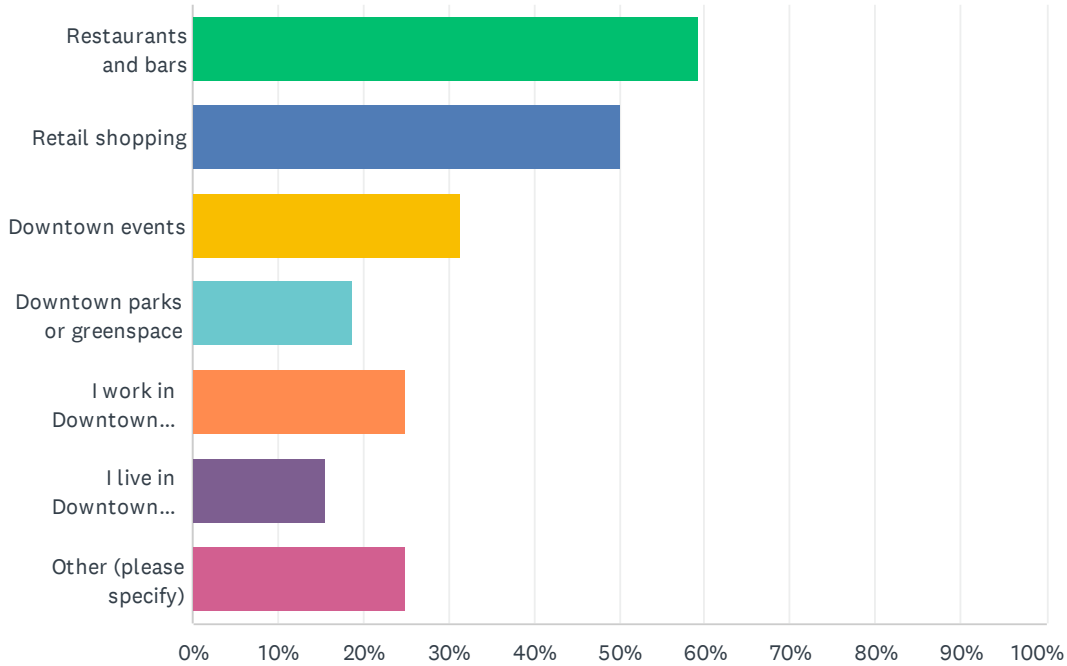
Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Everyday	62.50%	20
Once a week	31.25%	10
Once a month	6.25%	2
Every couple months	0.00%	0
Once or twice a year	0.00%	0
Never	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 32		

Q16 What do you typically visit Downtown Decatur for? Check all that apply.

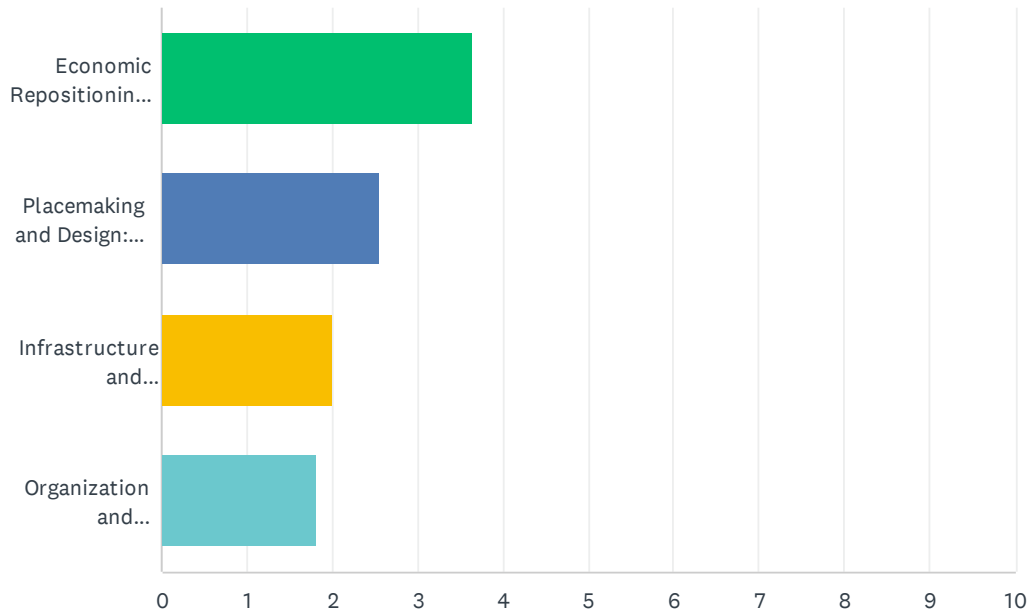
Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Restaurants and bars	59.38%	19
Retail shopping	50.00%	16
Downtown events	31.25%	10
Downtown parks or greenspace	18.75%	6
I work in Downtown Decatur	25.00%	8
I live in Downtown Decatur	15.63%	5
Other (please specify)	25.00%	8
Total Respondents: 32		

Q17 Please rank the following goals from what you think is the most important, to what you think is the least important (1 being most important).

Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
Economic Repositioning: Encouraging the growth and development of Downtown Decatur by supporting the highest and best use of property and tenant spaces, coordinating business attraction efforts, business assistance programs, and redevelopment.	74.19% 23	19.35% 6	3.23% 1	3.23% 1	31	3.65
Placemaking and Design: Utilizing the DDA's resources to plan, design, and construct an innovative and unique sense of place to complement Downtown Decatur's historic charm.	9.68% 3	45.16% 14	35.48% 11	9.68% 3	31	2.55
Infrastructure and Transportation: Ensuring Downtown Decatur, and the surrounding areas, are fitted with modern and efficient infrastructure to upkeep and enhance the Village's transportation and utility network.	12.90% 4	19.35% 6	22.58% 7	45.16% 14	31	2.00
Organization and Partnerships: Developing the necessary administrative tasks and fostering partnerships to implement projects.	3.23% 1	16.13% 5	38.71% 12	41.94% 13	31	1.81

Q18 What improvements or additional services do you suggest for the Village of Decatur?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 7

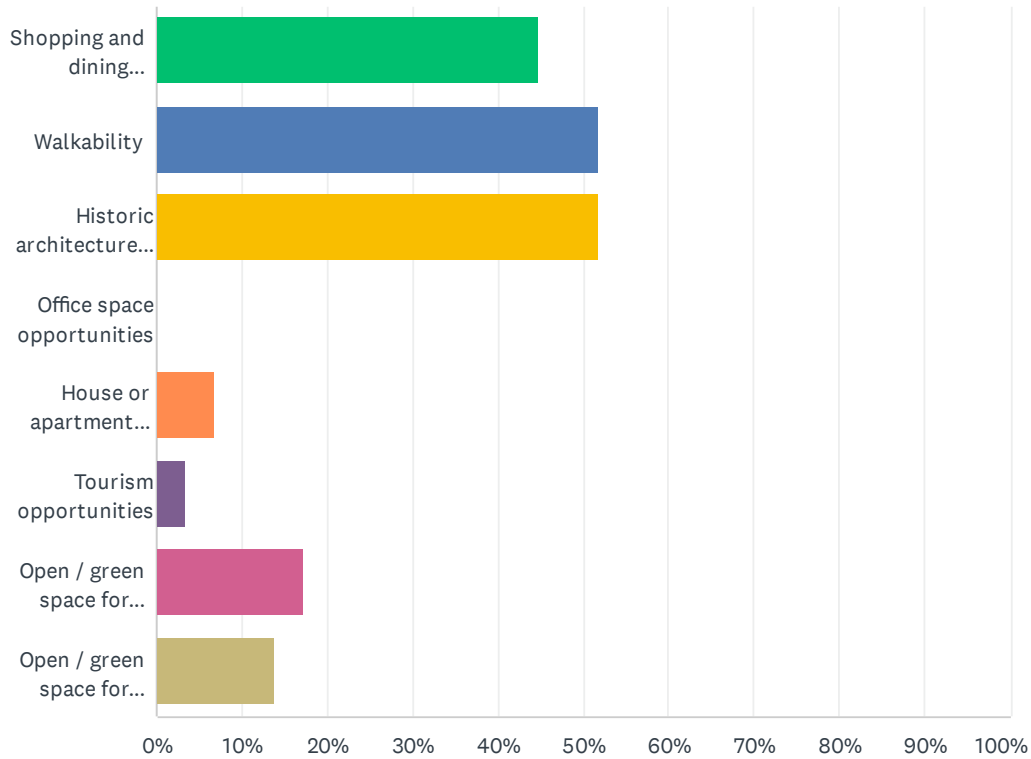
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Can we get a Bigby Coffee or Starbucks?	12/1/2022 7:50 PM
2	Not sure	12/1/2022 7:43 AM
3	Senior services, kids activities	11/30/2022 10:01 PM
4	More family events and less weed stores and drinking liquor festivals. We need restaurants and a coffee shop!	11/30/2022 8:23 PM
5	Clean up the slumlords property around town and all the riff raff who run the streets. People in rental units do not care about the community like home owners.	11/30/2022 12:03 PM
6	Fast food	11/30/2022 9:52 AM
7	Restaurants that are open like a fast food type that was convenient for after kids sports	11/30/2022 8:20 AM
8	Replanting trees along the sidewalks on the main 2 blocks of town. Continue to beautifying the village with larger, more beautiful potted plants throughout the summer. 2022's potted plants were so much better than in year's past, but much more improvement can still be made and into the fall as well. Spruce up the Christmas decorations and lights throughout the town. Hang some happy and welcoming banners up along M-51 or Phelps St if not allowed along M-51 Maybe even banners of the sports teams or graduating Seniors. Tear out the tennis courts and either replace them or put in pickle ball courts, create more parking, improve the picnic area there and instal flushable toilets. Clean up thr bathrooms at Raider Romp/VFW Pavillion (those are disgusting) and not well maintained.	11/29/2022 9:00 PM
9	Dog park, more antique stores, more charming places to visit. Bakery, deli. Like Dowagiac. More restaurants. You give out pot licenses Let restaurants have liquor licenses.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
10	Dog park, more antique stores, more charming places to visit. Bakery, deli. Like Dowagiac. More restaurants. You give out pot licenses Let restaurants have liquor licenses.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
11	I would like to see more shopping in downtown.	11/29/2022 7:27 PM
12	Historic home tours	11/29/2022 7:25 PM
13	Unsure	11/29/2022 7:14 PM
14	Na	11/29/2022 6:54 PM
15	Creating a multi use space for outdoor music; amphitheater, etc.	11/29/2022 6:31 PM
16	Put the farmers market back where it was. Across from Reeder Accounting	11/29/2022 6:17 PM
17	Place for outdoor market, get some businesses downtown that will draw in foot traffic, restoring the park that used to be by shortstop that was the main gathering area in town and fixing the store fronts so they look nice.	11/29/2022 6:16 PM
18	Attraction to the general public. Festival, Decatur day for more a family affair.	11/29/2022 6:12 PM
19	Municipal broadband or contact MEC to have competition to comcast who has raised rates and limited data. Work with the community for events and utilize the library. Make a point when elections are up that anyone can run if they do x steps and wants a say in the community.	11/29/2022 6:04 PM
20	I love living in the village. I feel safe, facilitates are kept in good condition, and I am proud of my town.	11/29/2022 5:36 PM
21	More events to bring people to downtown. No more Pot shops! Try to bring more national businesses to replace McDonalds and something cliser to downtown	11/29/2022 5:34 PM

Village of Decatur - 2023 DDA Plan / Parks & Recreation Survey

22	Eliminate vacant buildings or houses that are known to be harboring criminal activity.	11/29/2022 5:17 PM
23	Keeping the sidewalks walkable	11/29/2022 4:58 PM
24	Not available at this time	11/29/2022 9:22 AM
25	Splash pad	11/24/2022 3:51 PM

Q19 What do you like the most about Downtown Decatur? Check all that apply.

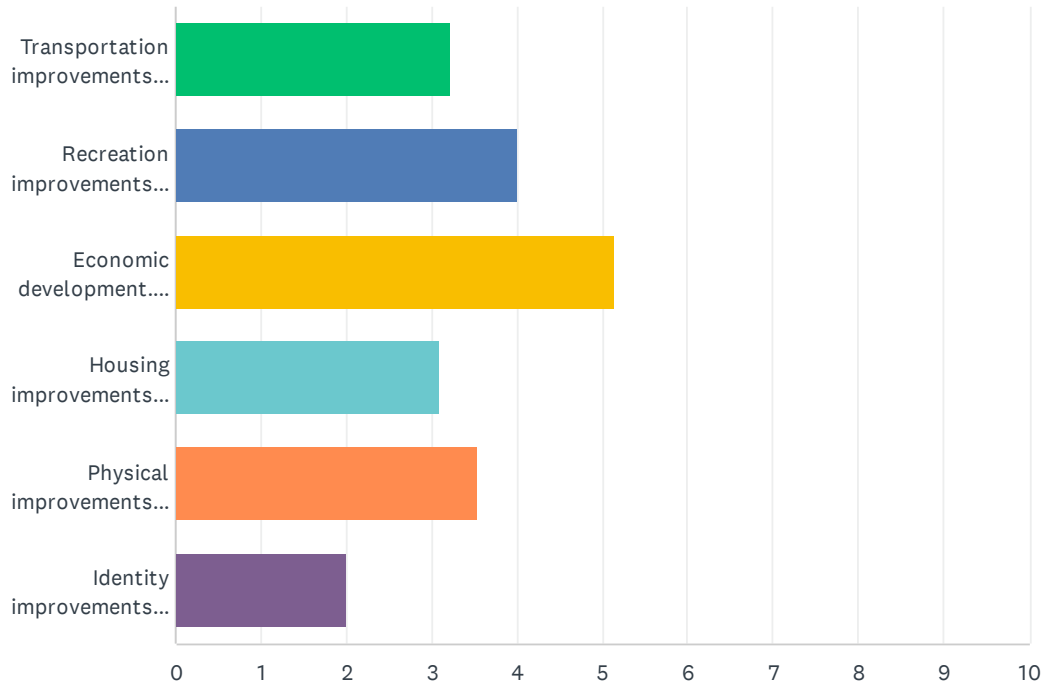
Answered: 29 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Shopping and dining opportunities	44.83%	13
Walkability	51.72%	15
Historic architecture and unique building character	51.72%	15
Office space opportunities	0.00%	0
House or apartment rental opportunities	6.90%	2
Tourism opportunities	3.45%	1
Open / green space for gathering	17.24%	5
Open / green space for recreation	13.79%	4
Total Respondents: 29		

Q20 What do you think needs to be improved in Downtown Decatur today? Rank the following, with '1' being the highest priority.

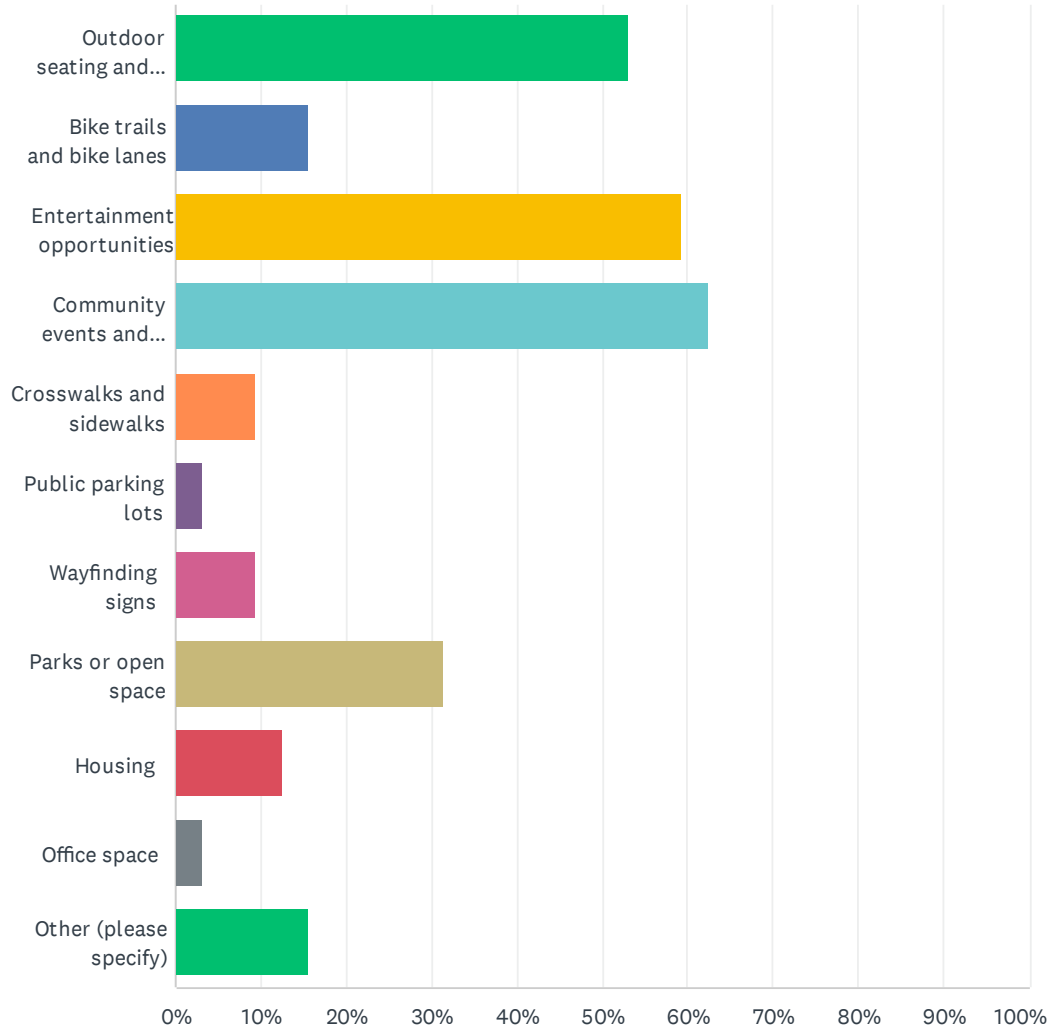
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	SCORE
Transportation improvements. Examples: traffic calming, bike network connectivity, public transportation opportunities, crosswalks, pedestrian crossing signals, sidewalks, etc.	9.68% 3	12.90% 4	22.58% 7	25.81% 8	3.23% 1	25.81% 8	31	3.23
Recreation improvements. Examples: parks, playground facilities, trails, open space, etc.	12.90% 4	25.81% 8	25.81% 8	22.58% 7	9.68% 3	3.23% 1	31	4.00
Economic development. Examples: job opportunities, retail diversity, more businesses, etc.	61.29% 19	16.13% 5	9.68% 3	3.23% 1	6.45% 2	3.23% 1	31	5.13
Housing improvements. Examples: apartment or home rental opportunities, attainable housing options, etc.	6.45% 2	16.13% 5	16.13% 5	16.13% 5	32.26% 10	12.90% 4	31	3.10
Physical improvements. Examples: building facade updates, more plants and flowers, streetscape amenities such as benches and lighting posts.	6.45% 2	25.81% 8	19.35% 6	16.13% 5	29.03% 9	3.23% 1	31	3.55
Identity improvements. Examples: public art, such as murals and/or sculptures, wayfinding signage, etc.	3.23% 1	3.23% 1	6.45% 2	16.13% 5	19.35% 6	51.61% 16	31	2.00

Q21 What do you think needs to be created in Downtown Decatur today? Check all that apply.

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0

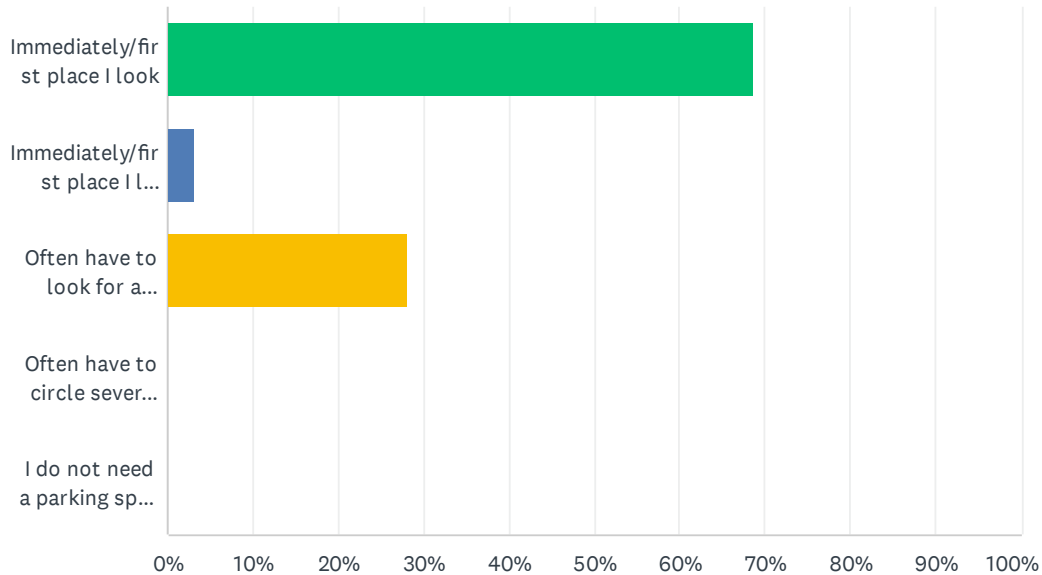


Village of Decatur - 2023 DDA Plan / Parks & Recreation Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Outdoor seating and dining	53.13%	17
Bike trails and bike lanes	15.63%	5
Entertainment opportunities	59.38%	19
Community events and programs	62.50%	20
Crosswalks and sidewalks	9.38%	3
Public parking lots	3.13%	1
Wayfinding signs	9.38%	3
Parks or open space	31.25%	10
Housing	12.50%	4
Office space	3.13%	1
Other (please specify)	15.63%	5
Total Respondents: 32		

Q22 When visiting Downtown Decatur (considering all months of the year), how long does it typically take to find a parking space?

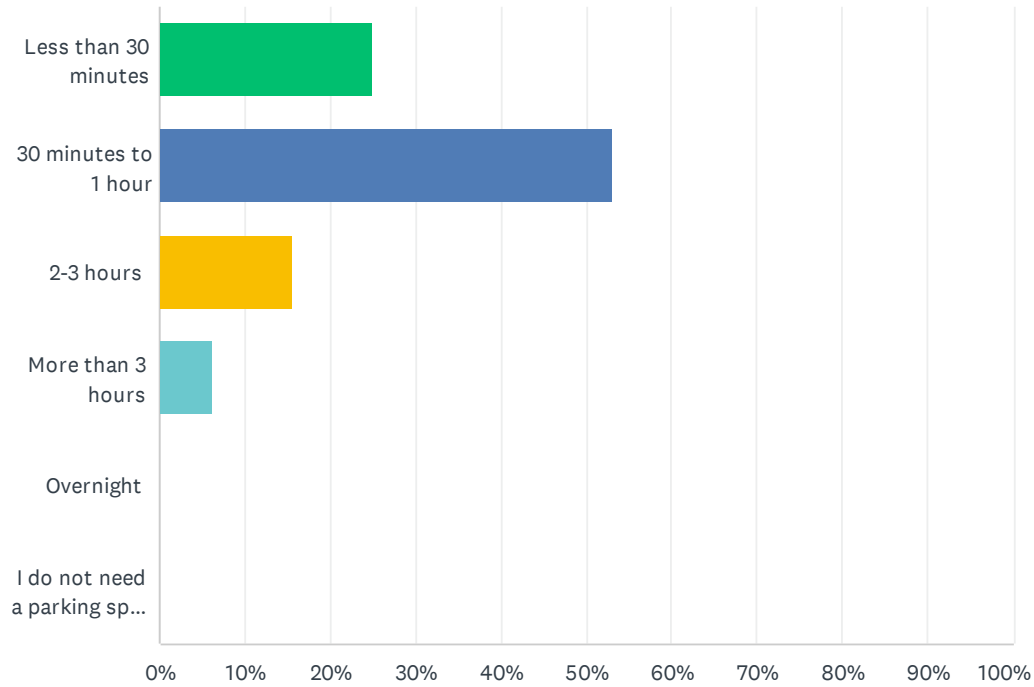
Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Immediately/first place I look	68.75%	22
Immediately/first place I look unless there is an event going on, then it is longer	3.13%	1
Often have to look for a second parking option (less than 5-minutes)	28.13%	9
Often have to circle several times to find a spot (5-minutes or more)	0.00%	0
I do not need a parking spot, I typically walk, bike or get dropped off downtown	0.00%	0
TOTAL		32

Q23 What's the average length of time you park on a typical visit to Downtown Decatur?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 30 minutes	25.00%	8
30 minutes to 1 hour	53.13%	17
2-3 hours	15.63%	5
More than 3 hours	6.25%	2
Overnight	0.00%	0
I do not need a parking spot, I typically walk, bike or get dropped off downtown	0.00%	0
TOTAL		32

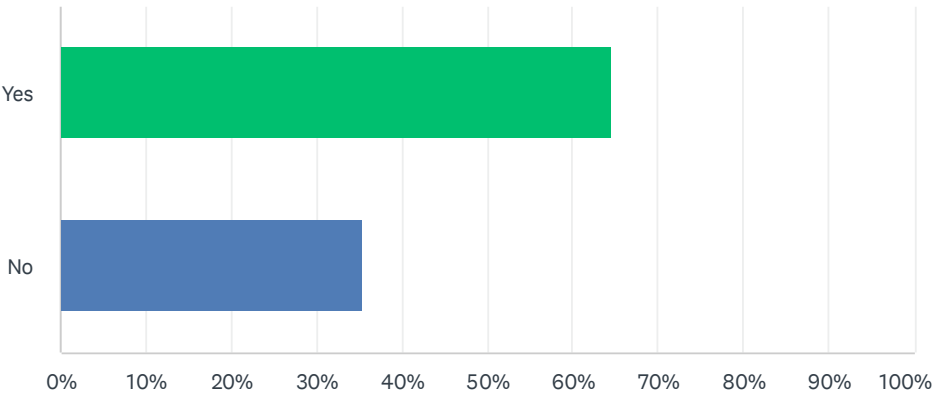
Q24 What do you think should be the Village's biggest priority for enhancing Downtown?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Bring new business! A coffee chain.	12/1/2022 7:50 PM
2	Final Gravity should take over the whole building including Harley's to make it a destination all year round.	12/1/2022 7:07 PM
3	Filling empty retail spaces	12/1/2022 7:43 AM
4	More Restaurant and a coffee shop	11/30/2022 8:23 PM
5	Attracting small businesses	11/30/2022 12:03 PM
6	Psrking	11/30/2022 9:52 AM
7	Open businesses like restaurants fast	11/30/2022 8:20 AM
8	More restaurants, outdoor seating, liquor licenses, a community center. Buy and rehab old school . That's Closed. Reach out to Lake of the Woods citizens. They spend a lot of money here. However sisters lakes and paw Paw have better restaurants. Get rid of sleepy places.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
9	More restaurants, outdoor seating, liquor licenses, a community center. Buy and rehab old school . That's Closed. Reach out to Lake of the Woods citizens. They spend a lot of money here. However sisters lakes and paw Paw have better restaurants. Get rid of sleepy places.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
10	New Christmas Decorations! Benches, hanging plants, festive lighting, murals.	11/29/2022 7:27 PM
11	Make sure the shops are open every day.	11/29/2022 7:25 PM
12	More community events and housing	11/29/2022 7:14 PM
13	Food, small business	11/29/2022 6:54 PM
14	Trails and outdoor/indoor music venue	11/29/2022 6:31 PM
15	Creating non commercial spaces/events to bring people together to develop community	11/29/2022 6:22 PM
16	Food options	11/29/2022 6:17 PM
17	More activities that draw a crowd	11/29/2022 6:16 PM
18	Building frontage clean up.	11/29/2022 6:12 PM
19	Facade updates	11/29/2022 6:04 PM
20	Making the downtown more attractive with robust business and restaurants. It's a nice area and friendly atmosphere. It would be great if folks came from neighboring towns to shop or eat here.	11/29/2022 5:36 PM
21	Make it more welcoming	11/29/2022 5:34 PM
22	Creating an atmosphere that makes people want to live, shop and work here. Right now the identity of Decatur is in dire need of a facelift and opportunities for work need to be attractive for potential business owners.	11/29/2022 5:17 PM
23	Open the Gentleman club as something other than a strip club	11/29/2022 4:58 PM
24	Get some businesses to Decatur. Have the existing business be held to maintaining the outsides of there buildings	11/29/2022 9:22 AM
25	Splash pad	11/24/2022 3:51 PM
26	Improving the building's exterior.	11/23/2022 9:56 AM

Q25 Do you believe there are sufficient opportunities to participate or engage in Village-wide activities / events?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	64.52%	20
No	35.48%	11
TOTAL		31

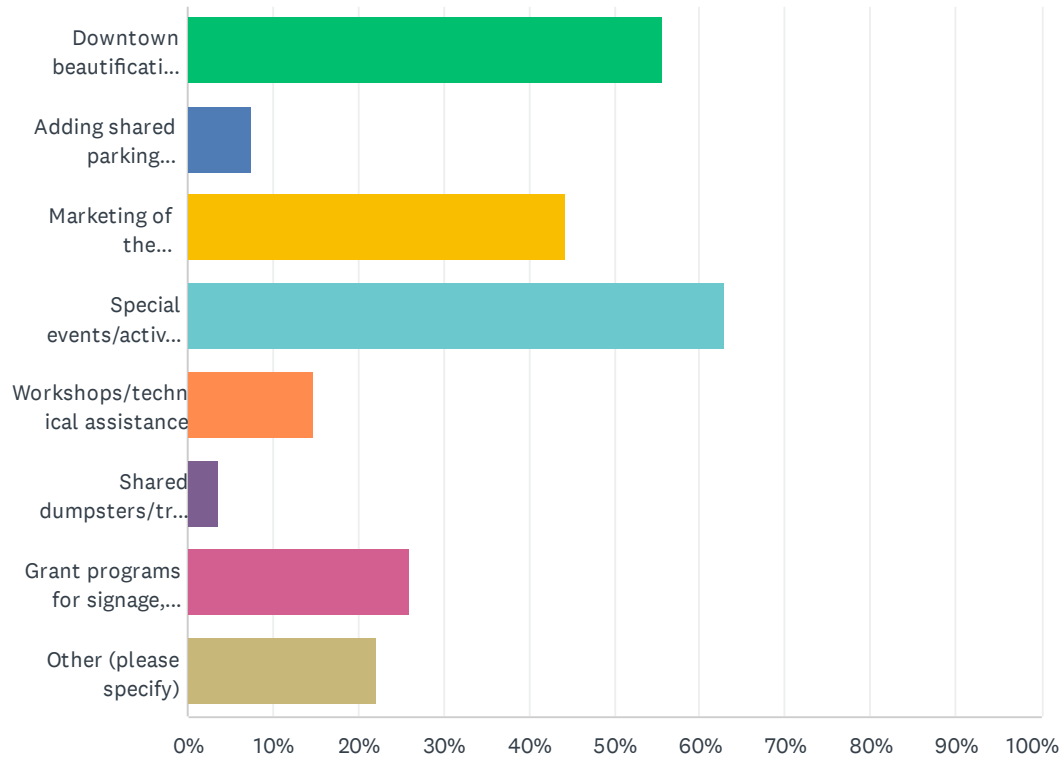
Q26 What programs/services/events do you suggest the DDA/Village offer?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Please expand garbage pickup to Hamilton Township	12/1/2022 7:50 PM
2	Not sure	12/1/2022 7:43 AM
3	More family oriented events! Put the Kids first!	11/30/2022 8:23 PM
4	Decatur Days!	11/30/2022 12:03 PM
5	Events around the holidays. 5 k runs, Breakfast with Santa, Bunny Brunch, fishing derbies, scavenger hunt. Bonfire at the pRk, fall fest, winter fest. Hayrides in the park, family Valentines party, St. Pat's bar crawl.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
6	Events around the holidays. 5 k runs, Breakfast with Santa, Bunny Brunch, fishing derbies, scavenger hunt. Bonfire at the pRk, fall fest, winter fest. Hayrides in the park, family Valentines party, St. Pat's bar crawl.	11/29/2022 8:49 PM
7	Anything to bring people outdoors. Make people want to take evening strolls through town. I want to see people out and about through town. That is one thing I admire about Dowagiac, there are always people out and about downtown. We need to liven up our Village.	11/29/2022 7:27 PM
8	Don't know	11/29/2022 7:25 PM
9	Unsure	11/29/2022 7:14 PM
10	Summer fest or some family downtown events	11/29/2022 6:54 PM
11	An annual town celebration	11/29/2022 6:31 PM
12	Outdoor Market, kids activities and less gigantic grain towers	11/29/2022 6:16 PM
13	Decatur day as an event, human services(again), food bank?	11/29/2022 6:12 PM
14	Keep up the good work. Light up the park seems like it will be a good little event.	11/29/2022 6:04 PM
15	?	11/29/2022 5:36 PM
16	Carnival type event. - Weekend entertainment with food trucks	11/29/2022 5:34 PM
17	Less community support focused (like the recent suggestion for senior events) and more things that bring in money FOR the community (art fairs where vendors pay the village for booths, for example; a summer concert series, etc)	11/29/2022 5:17 PM
18	Not aure	11/29/2022 4:58 PM
19	Not available at this time	11/29/2022 9:22 AM
20	Nail salon	11/24/2022 3:51 PM
21	Music events	11/23/2022 9:56 AM

Q27 If you are a business/property owner, what would be most helpful? Check all that apply.

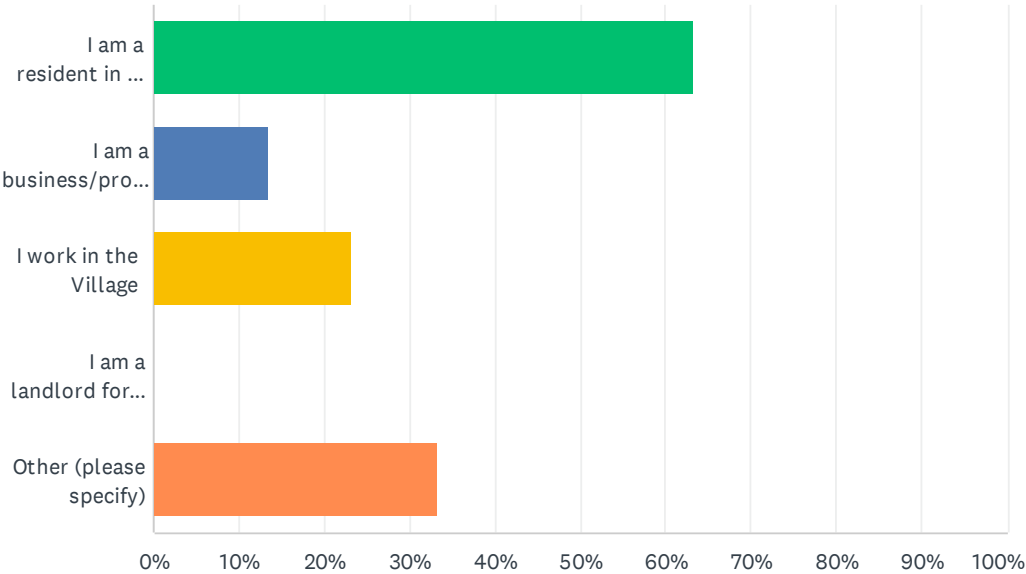
Answered: 27 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Downtown beautification (buildings, streetscapes, etc.)	55.56%	15
Adding shared parking opportunities	7.41%	2
Marketing of the downtown/community region	44.44%	12
Special events/activities	62.96%	17
Workshops/technical assistance	14.81%	4
Shared dumpsters/trash collection	3.70%	1
Grant programs for signage, the facade, etc.	25.93%	7
Other (please specify)	22.22%	6
Total Respondents: 27		

Q28 Check all that apply.

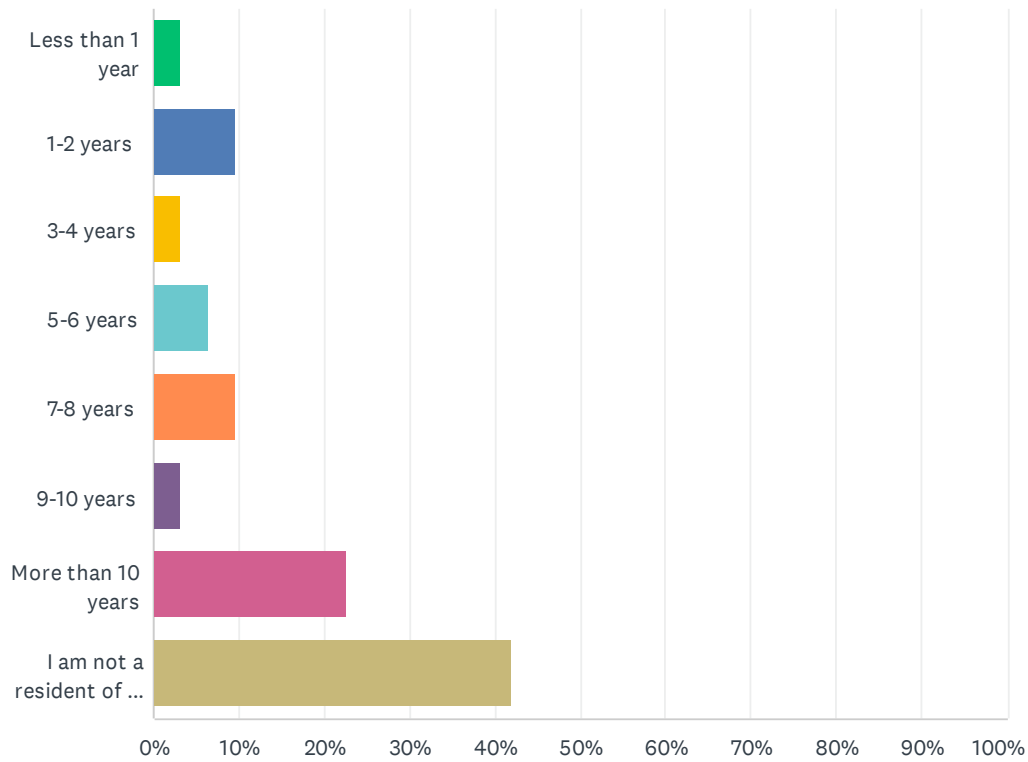
Answered: 30 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I am a resident in the Village	63.33%	19
I am a business/property owner in the Village	13.33%	4
I work in the Village	23.33%	7
I am a landlord for a Village property(ies)	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	33.33%	10
Total Respondents: 30		

Q29 How long have you been a resident of the Village of Decatur?

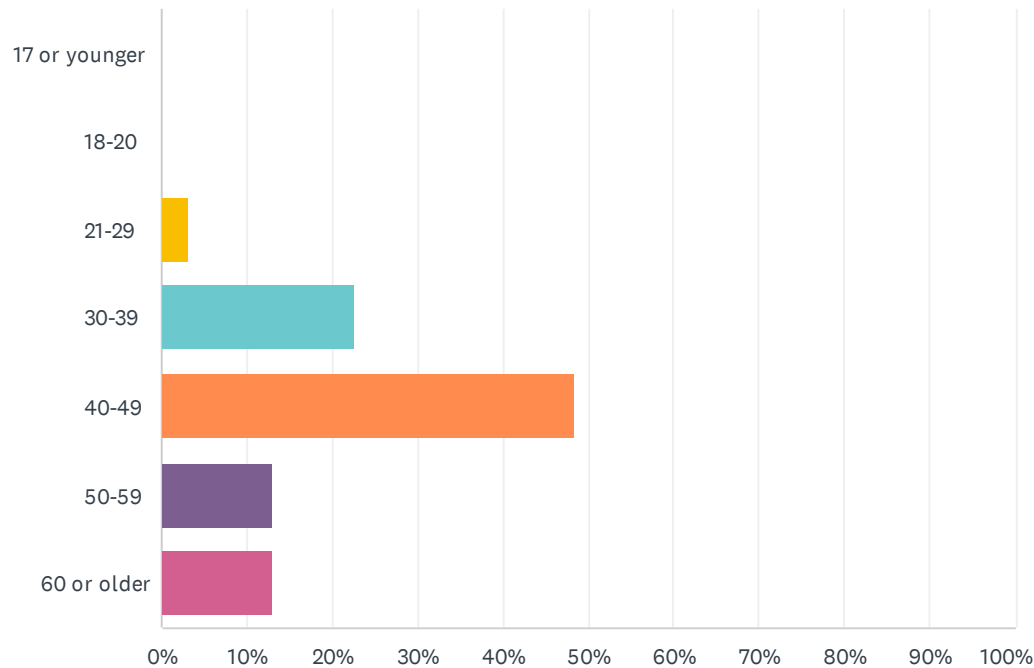
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 1 year	3.23%	1
1-2 years	9.68%	3
3-4 years	3.23%	1
5-6 years	6.45%	2
7-8 years	9.68%	3
9-10 years	3.23%	1
More than 10 years	22.58%	7
I am not a resident of the Village of Decatur	41.94%	13
TOTAL		31

Q30 What is your age?

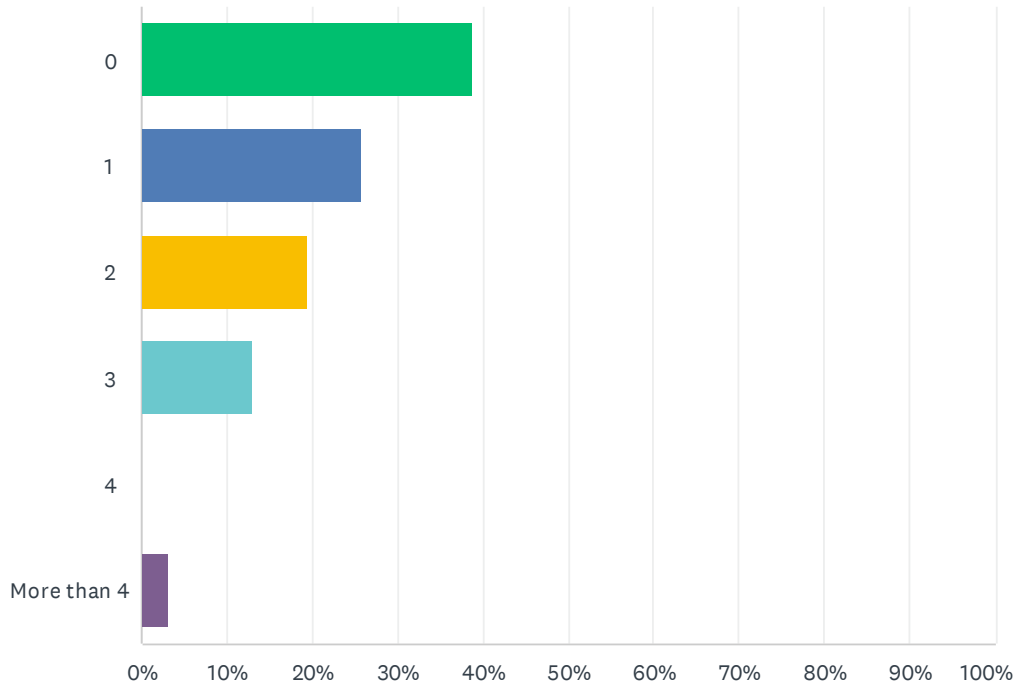
Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18-20	0.00%	0
21-29	3.23%	1
30-39	22.58%	7
40-49	48.39%	15
50-59	12.90%	4
60 or older	12.90%	4
TOTAL		31

Q31 How many children are you parent or guardian to and live in your household (aged 17 or younger)

Answered: 31 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0	38.71%	12
1	25.81%	8
2	19.35%	6
3	12.90%	4
4	0.00%	0
More than 4	3.23%	1
TOTAL		31



Village of Decatur
114 N Phelps Street
Decatur, MI 49045

MEMORANDUM

TO: Downtown Development Authority
FROM: Shantel Pentland, Administrative Assistant
REVIEWED BY: Christopher Tapper, Village Manager
DATE: December 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Holiday Parade and Light Up the DDA Park Discussion

Action Requested:

It is requested that the DDA discuss public feedback from the Holiday Parade and Light Up the DDA Park, and gather ways to improve next year's events

Background:


Feedback has been gathered from Facebook, DDA Members, Staff, Residents, etc. and the general consensus is an evening parade is preferred. Many individuals mentioned the first Friday of December.

Attachments:


Feedback from Facebook



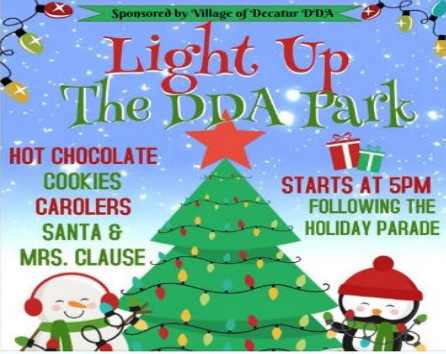
Village of Decatur
114 N Phelps Street
Decatur, MI 49045

**Village of Decatur, MI**
Published by Shantel Pentland · 18h · 🌐


Highlights from the Holiday Parade and Light Up the Park 🌟
Thank you to everyone who braved the chilly weather to come enjoy the parade and park events, we hope fun was had by all!
- Village of Decatur Downtown Development Authority and Staff





Holiday PARADE
Sponsored by Village of Decatur DDA
Celebrate Christmas in the Village




Light Up The DPA Park
Sponsored by Village of Decatur DDA
HOT CHOCOLATE
COOKIES
CAROLERS
SANTA & MRS. CLAUSE
STARTS AT 5PM FOLLOWING THE HOLIDAY PARADE





[See insights and ads](#)[Boost post](#)

 21


4 comments 2 shares

 Like


 Comment

 Share


Most relevant ▾




Write a comment...
Press Enter to post.




Michael Penning
A night time Christmas parade would be fantastic. ...
Like Reply Hide [Send Message](#) 13h




Reply to Michael Penning...
Press Enter to post.




Sharon Labak-Neubauer
Would love for parade and festivities go back to night time and on a Friday night. My son and family live out of town. They go back home on Sunday mornings. Love that activities are coming back to Decatur. Great job everyone. ...



Like Reply Hide [Send Message](#) 17h



Jami Swihart
Was a great time!! ...
Like Reply Hide [Send Message](#) 15h



Linda Kirkness Gates
Such a fun time! Thank you Decatur! ...
Like Reply Hide [Send Message](#) 17h

Our Story

Culpepper & Merriweather Circus was founded in 1985 by three men who, quite frankly, did not realize what they could not do. Far from the glitz and glamour associated with show business, these three intrepid circus veterans alternated announcing, performing and working in the concession stand. Not relying on ticket sales, our heroes passed the hat after each performance at campgrounds, festivals or any group of people that would stick around to watch. By our second season, C&M Circus was able to hit the road with a tent, pony and a crew of six. In the 37 years since then, we have added equipment, animals, six company owned vehicles and around 40 employees. Our season lasts about 8 months each year covering 18 states with performances in a different town every day!

WHY WE NEED YOU

Gone are the days of passing the hat to whatever crowd shows up. Our annual operating budget requires we bring in at least \$5,000 per day we're on the road just to break even. To make Circus Day a success for us and a memorable event in the towns we visit, we work in partnership with local community and service organizations. By sponsoring our circus, local groups can bring a time honored American tradition their town and raise money to use for other projects. Our home office staff provides materials and assistance to each group so that everyone wins. With every ticket sold, there is more money to split between us. The more tickets your organization sells in advance, the more money your group gets to keep. The details are explained inside the brochure.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

We will do everything we can to represent your organization in a professional manner.

We know how important it is for you to be proud of events with which your organizations is associated.

We will work with you to make Circus Day a success for everyone. If you make money, we make money.

We will bring a great American tradition to your community. Grandparents, parents and children of all ages will create memories of Circus Day for years to come.



Culpepper & Merriweather Circus Sponsorship Agreement

The Circus Provides...

- Two 90 minute traditional Circus performances under a beautiful Big Top tent -- the way the Circus is meant to be seen! We also invite the public to watch the tent raising each morning!
- Electricity, equipment and personnel necessary to erect the tent and put on the shows
- \$2 million in liability Insurance indemnifying the owner of the show grounds and your organization at no charge.
- 100 posters, 500 adult and 500 child/senior advance tickets sent to your organization for no charge.
- A home office staff to assist you in making Circus Day a success
- Our promise to leave the show grounds as clean as we found them.

What we ask of your organization...

- Suitable show grounds at least 300' x 300' in size. The lot has to be accessible for large vehicles.
- One potable running water source. A fire hydrant or regular garden hose faucet will work.
- Provide containers for trash and manure. The Circus produces about 4 cubic yards each day. We will bag the trash and load the manure into the containers for you.
- Any permits or licenses required by local ordinance.
- Two ticket takers for each show. Your neighbors will want to thank you for bringing the Circus to town! Your group needs to be there to get the credit!
- Contract signing fee of \$290. This fee is refundable based on the number of advance adult tickets you sell. See next page for details...

Division of Proceeds

50% of Advance Adult Tickets after the first 100*

25% of Advance Child/Senior tickets or 40% if you sell 200 or more

10% of Box Office sales by the Circus on Show Day

*If you do not sell over 100 Advance Adult tickets, your organization still keeps it's percentage from the Child/Senior Tickets. If you sell over 200 Advance Adult Tickets, the Circus will refund the full \$290 signing fee.

Ticket Prices

In Advance:

Adult: \$13

Child/Senior: \$8

Circus Day:

Adult: \$16

Child/Senior: \$9

For booking information, please
contact us at:

email: cmcircus@gmail.com

Phone: 580-326-8833

Mail: CM Circus

P.O Box 813

Hugo, OK 74743

Visit us online on FaceBook or at

cmcircus.com





Village of Decatur
114 N Phelps Street
Decatur, MI 49045

MEMORANDUM

TO: Downtown Development Authority
FROM: Shantel Pentland, Administrative Assistant
REVIEWED BY: Christopher Tapper, Village Manager
DATE: December 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Projected Calendar of Events 2023

Action Requested:

It is requested that the DDA review and provide input for the following projected Calendar of Events for 2023

Background:

January

- No Scheduled Events

February

- Month-long Valentine's Day Window Decorating Contest

March

- Month-long Leprechaun Hunt Contest

April

- Easter Egg Hunt- Coordinate with VFW

May

- Weekly Farmer's Market
- Weekly Food Trucks

June

- Weekly Farmer's Market
- Weekly Food Trucks

July

- Monday, July 3: 8pm- 11pm- Fireworks and Food Trucks Extravaganza
- Weekly Farmer's Market
- Weekly Food Trucks

August

- Weekly Farmer's Market
- Weekly Food Trucks
- Saturday, August 19: Decatur Day/ Midwest Fest/ Circus



Village of Decatur
114 N Phelps Street
Decatur, MI 49045

September

- Monday, September 4: 11am-2pm- Labor Day Market and Food Truck Rally

October

- Tuesday, October 31: 5pm-7pm- Boo Bash and Village Trick-or-Treating
- Month-long Scarecrow Decorating Contest

November

December

- Month-long Christmas Window Decorating Contest
- Friday, December 1: 6pm-7:30pm- Christmas Parade and Light Up the DDA Park

Attachments:

None